GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2929
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2005
LICENCE FEE FOR SMALL TEA STALLS VENDORS
Chandrappan Shri C.K.;Mehta Shri Bhubneshwar Prasad

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the licence fee for the small tea stall vendors at Railway stations was increased steeply during 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the Delhi High Court has issued any stay order on a petition filed by the vendors of Delhi Railway Station;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) whether the Railways have served notices to pay arrears of licence for at the revised rate since 1997-98 failing which to close down their stalls w.e.f. June 29, 2005 despite the matter is pending with the Delhi High Court;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to give relief to the vendors ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) & (b): Licence fee was revised in the year 1999. The licence fee was increased to 12% of the actual sales turnover as a policy decision of the Ministry of Railways.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. Some of the catering contractors and vendors went to court and secured stay from the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

(e) & (f): Notices were served in the light of Hon'ble Supreme Court's Orders dated 29.03.2005 in the Civil Appeal No. 4897/2002, 4898/2002, 4899/2002, 4900/2002, 4901/2002, 4902/2002, 1667/2004, 48/2005 and SLP (C) No. 5353/2003 in which revision of licence fee was upheld and permission was granted to realize arrears. Orders also stipulate that if licencee fails to deposit the arrears within 2 months (upto 29.05.2005), Indian Railways may terminate the licence and make recovery of the arrears in accordance with the law.

(g) Does not arise.